

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service**

**Royalty Policy Committee
Charter**

1. **Committee's Official Designation.** Royalty Policy Committee (Committee).
 2. **Authority.** The Committee is in the public interest in connection with the responsibilities of the Department of the Interior. Authority for this Committee is under the:
 - Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2,
 - Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et. seq.*), including provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-058),
 - Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701 *et. seq.*) (1996),
 - Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-185),
 - Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 *et. seq.*),
 - Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 *et. seq.*),
 - Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351 *et. seq.*), and
 - Mineral Leasing Laws for Indian Land.
 3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The Committee will provide advice to the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary), through the Director of the Minerals Management Service (MMS), on the management of Federal and Indian mineral leases and revenues under the laws governing the Department of the Interior. The Committee will review and comment on revenue management and other mineral and energy-related policies, and provide a forum to convey views representative of mineral lessees, operators, revenue payors, revenue recipients, governmental agencies, and public interest groups.
 4. **Description of Duties.** The duties of the Committee are solely advisory.
 5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports.** The Committee will report to the Secretary through the Director of the MMS.
 6. **Support.** The MMS will provide administrative and logistical support for the Committee.
 7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Committee's functions are estimated to be \$165,748, including all direct and indirect expenses and 1.5 full-time employees.
 8. **Designated Federal Officer.** The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) to whom the Committee reports will be the Associate Director for Minerals Revenue Management (MRM). The DFO or the DFO designee or alternate DFO(s) will be full-time or permanent part-time Federal employees, and will approve all meeting agendas, attend all Committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair committee meetings when directed to do so by the official to whom the advisory committee reports.
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9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The Committee will meet at the request of the Director of the MMS approximately once a year.
10. **Duration.** The Committee's charter may be renewed in 2-year increments by the Secretary as long as the Minerals Revenue Management Program of the MMS requires the expertise and advice of the Committee.
11. **Termination.** The Committee is subject to biennial review and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless prior to that date, it is renewed. The charter is renewed in accordance with section 14(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The Committee will not meet or take any official action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Designation.** The Secretary will appoint non-Federal members and their alternates to the Committee to serve up to a 3-year term. The terms of non-Federal Committee members and their alternates shall be staggered to preserve Committee integrity. Appointment terms for new or reappointed non-Federal members will generally be 3 years unless such appointment terms result in more than one-third of the non-Federal members' terms expiring in any given year. In that case, appointments of non-Federal members may be extended for 1-year or 2-years to provide continuity within the Committee. Non-Federal members may not serve more than 6 consecutive years as a member. However, after a 2-year break in service, any such non-Federal member will again be eligible for appointment. The Secretary may revoke the appointment of the member and the alternate if the appointed member or alternate fails to attend two consecutive meetings. Committee members shall be comprised of non-Federal and Federal members in order to ensure fair and balanced representation with consideration for the efficiency and fiscal economy of the Committee. All members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

Non-Federal Members: The Secretary may appoint members selected from, but not limited to:

- Up to five members representing states that receive significant royalty revenues from Federal leases.
- Up to five members representing Native Americans.
- Up to seven members representing the various mineral and/or energy interests.
- Up to three members representing public interest groups.

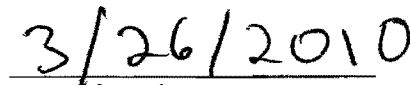
Federal Members: The following officials, or their designees, are nonvoting, ex- officio members of the Committee:

- Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs
- Director, Bureau of Land Management
- Director, Minerals Management Service

Members of the Committee serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, Committee, subcommittee, or workgroup members engaged in Committee, subcommittee, or workgroup business approved by the DFO may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5703, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Federal Government service.

13. **Ethics Responsibilities of Members.** No Committee or subcommittee member shall participate in a specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct personal financial interest.
14. **Subcommittees.** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees or workgroups can be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees or workgroups must act only under the direction of the Committee and must report their recommendations to the full Committee for consideration. The Committee Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee or workgroup members. Subcommittees or workgroups will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
15. **Recordkeeping.** The records of the Committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the Committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.


Secretary of the Interior


Date Signed

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Date Filed